

CHEMICAL CLEANING COMPANY PREPARES STAFF, FACILITY
FOR GROWTH

ABOUT CLEAN CONTROL CORPORATION. In 1980, Steve Davison wanted to create a concentrated cleaner to compete for government contracts. Along with a chemist friend of his, who is now the director of research and development for Clean Control, Davison and his friend began experimenting, mixing chemicals in Davison's bathtub. Today, the company, which is based in Warner Robins, Georgia, employs one hundred people, including three in research and development, four chemists, and one microbiologist—allowing them to continue experimenting with new chemical combinations, but in a more controlled environment.

THE CHALLENGE. Clean Control had a lot of team members who had been with the company for a long time. "As a management team, we felt it was important for everyone to understand how they fit into the larger team and the importance of working together," explained Michelle Bowen, CFO/General Manager. To assist with this, she called Hank Hobbs, project manager with the Georgia Manufacturing Extension Partnership (GaMEP) at Georgia Tech, part of the MEP National Network™. In addition, Clean Control had tripled in size in just a few short years after including direct shipping to online customers. It needed to expand the facility, streamline processes, and get packages out more efficiently. Clean Control worked with the GaMEP team, including Hobbs and central region manager Alan Barfoot, on expansion planning and just-in-time manufacturing.

MEP CENTER'S ROLE. For front line leadership, Hobbs taught three sessions to 12 people each, training 36 Clean Control team members. The sessions focused on communication, conflict resolution, diversity awareness, problem solving, and job instruction. Hobbs gave each group a project, including a budget, where they had to develop a company outing. Since the training, Clean Control has continued to implement these working groups, changing up the teams and allowing people to get to know one another. Now, communication lines are more open and the teams radio each other throughout the day, asking questions and brainstorming ideas.

For the plant expansion, Clean Control worked with Barfoot to develop CAD drawings to map out the new facility. The team examined how to change the conveyor layout and identified an opportunity to pack up and ship out the new demand with the same number of team members. They also found the company was storing an excessive number of pallets on the production floor. They asked the company to drop a truck with pallets outside the facility, opening up 100 percent of the floor space. With the expansion, Clean Control plans to buy one large mixing tank, reducing the number of small batches they mix daily, but also freeing up equipment for future products.

"We've worked with the GaMEP for years and as we grow, they continue to support us in our efforts."

-Michelle Bowen, CFO / General Manager

RESULTS



Changed layout to conduct **3** times the business with the same amount of people



Opened up **100** percent of the production space



Training for **36** team members on front line leadership, improving communication



Plan to purchase larger tank for mixing will reduce batches from 3-4/day down to 1/day

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